SOTL
THE SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING & LEARNING

WHAT DO THESE ACRONYMS HAVE IN COMMON: SOTL, ISSOTL, T&LC, ILC, OPID, WTFS, AND FC?

These acronyms relate to intentional improvement of teaching and learning. The Teaching & Learning Center (T&LC) at UW-Platteville was founded on the concept. The Improvement of Learning Committee (ILC), a faculty committee that advises the T&LC, was created to encourage and support the improvement of teaching and learning on campus. That committee is responsible for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Grant (SoTL Grant) on campus, that will be announced soon. The grant provides funds to support faculty in SoTL projects.

SoTL isn’t limited to the boundaries of campus. It is well supported throughout Wisconsin through the UW System and the Office of Professional and Instructional Development (OPID). One of the excellent opportunities OPID makes available to us is Faculty College (FC). Each of the UW comprehensive colleges may send up to six faculty to the FC each year in late May. The three-day event is focused on improving teaching and learning with intent. Faculty College is a wonderful networking and learning experience for new and experienced faculty.

OPID also provides our Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars program. Each campus may have two participants in this program. Fellows are early-career faculty and scholars are mid-career faculty. Each participant conducts a SoTL project that is disseminated through the OPID Spring Conference. You will receive announcements about Faculty College and WTFS from the provost’s office.

Of course, SoTL isn’t limited to Wisconsin, either. It is an international interest for educators across disciplines. That led to the formation of ISSOTL, or the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning. They have a conference each October and this year’s conference will be in Canada.

Useful links for more information:
http://www.uwplatt.edu/tlc
http://www.uwsa.edu/opid
http://www.issotl.org

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.
(Aristotle)